

School-Based Telehealth Workgroup

October 2, 2018

Meeting Summary

Key discussion items include:

- The Hilltop Institute presented an overview of the school health services (SHS) regulations, specifically COMAR 13A.05.05.05-.15. The presentation highlighted key definitions, standards for all students, standards for students with special health needs, and implementation of the regulations. Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and Maryland Department of Health (MDH) staff provided clarifying comments on the information presented. After the presentation, workgroup members discussed the role of school nurses, annual certification of SHS programs, and additional guidelines for SHS.
- The workgroup reviewed and discussed on the process for completing version 2 of the information gathering tables designed to collect information about benefits, barriers/challenges, and solutions on topic areas relevant to school-based telehealth. There was discussion regarding whether the term “telehealth” should be utilized throughout the document as an all-encompassing term for the delivery of somatic, behavioral health, and IEP services virtually.
- Discussion of Table 1 aimed to identify the benefits, barriers & challenges, and solutions to building awareness on the value of using telehealth to provide special education services. The conversation brought to light benefits around improved compliance with federal individualized education plan (IEP) requirements and greater access to services. Barriers and challenges around parental and provider education of telehealth, parental linguistic and cultural barriers, and the scope of provider practice were discussed. Regarding solutions, workgroup members discussed implementing live/hands-on demonstrations of telehealth services to improve awareness and acceptance.
- *The workgroup is scheduled to meet on Monday, October 29, 2018 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at MHCC. Topics will include an update on the school telehealth grants that are scheduled to be awarded in November. Meeting materials will be posted to the workgroup [webpage](#) prior to the meeting.*